(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to prevent the smuggling of arms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) Customs authorities have not detected any instance of smuggling of arms in the coastal area of Konkan during the last few months. However, the Customs authorities remain alert against smuggling activities including that of fire-arms. Close coordination is being maintained between all the agencies concerned in the prevention and detection of smuggling.

Impact of new duty drawback schedule on exports

1183. SHI V. NARAYANASAMY: *Will the Minister of* FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's announcement of new Duty Drawback Schedule of 161 items to boost the exports have shown encouraging results; and

(b) if so, whether these conform to the desired level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) The Duty Drawback Schedule announced on 1-6-1992 covers 353 items. Out of these the rates for 161 items have been increased.

It is too early to assess whether this enhancement of rates has resulted in increae in exports. The duty drawback scheme is not an export incentive as it only compensates the exporter for duties suffered on the inputs that have been used in the manufacture of the products exported. This is done to enable the exporters to compete in the international market without any disadvantage on account of duty on the inputs.

Seizure of Narcotics at Varanasi

1184. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a gang of heroin smugglers was busted in Dashswamedh area of Varanasi and about 2.6 Kg. of heroin worth about Rs. 2.5 crores in international market was seized on or about June 9, 1992;

(b) if so, what are the details of the gang and its *modus operandi* and the persons apprehended; and

(c) what is the total quantity of heroin seized by various Revenue and Enforcement authorities and agencies during the past three months, indicating the details of the major hauls of the drugs and narcotics seized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes Sir. 2.2 Kgs of heroin was seized on 7-6-1992. No precise valuation of heroin, which is often of indeterminate chemical strength and composition and is liable for destruction, is feasible.

(b) A gang comprising 11 criminals were indulging in purchase of heroin from Barabanki Distt. in U.P. and sell in retail to drug pushers of Varanasi. Out of these 11, nine were apprehended and two are absconding.

(c) Total quantity of heroin seized in India as per reports during the period April—June, 1992 is 391 Kgs.

Other major hauls of drugs and narcotics are as under:

1.	Ganja	1044 Kgs. was seized by Bombay Police on 17-4-1992.
2.	Methaqualone	On 10-4-1992 Bombay Police seized 1318·250 Kgs. and on 26-5-1992 NCB Bombay seized 510 Kgs.
3.	Hashish	On 5-5-1992 in Kutch District Gujarat Police seize 255.245 Kgs. and on 3-6-1992, 454·5 Kgs. of Hashish was seized by Bombay Customs.

LIC Agreement with M/s. Sunlife of U.K.

1185. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Life Insurance Corporation of India has entered into an agreement with M/s. Sunlife of United Kingdom for selling its products in United Kingdom; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Life Insurance Corporation of India have entered into agreements with the Sunlife Assurance Society PLC of U.K., to market life assurance and pension policies in U.K. The policies issued will be reassured with Sunlife who will give the necessary administrative and technical support. The operations have commenced with effect from 11th June 1992.

SBI capital market ltd. to help establish bank in Sri Lanka

1186. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Bank of India Capital Market Limited has been invited by the Sri Lankan Nationalised Peoples Bank to extend its technical know-how and equity to establish a merchant bank in Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have given clearance to this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Reopening of Kelvin Jute Company Limited, Calcutta

1187. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sick industries with sancioned scheme for rehabilitation are financed by Financial Institutions;

(b) if so, whether Kelvin Jute Company Limited, Calcutta was accepted by BIFR as sick in case no. 220/87 and a scheme was sanctioned for relief by IRBI, IFCI and SBI;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the new promoter of the company fulfilled all his commitments and opened the closed mill and restored employment to 4000 workmen and all the three financial institutions and Banks failed to fulfil their commitments and only partially released funds after long period;

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(e) whether in a review meeting BIFR on 14th August, 1991 accepted that the scheme is jeopardised due to delay in release of funds by FIs and Bank;

(f) whether the scheme is being reviewed by IRBI since August 1991 and on this plea all help to the company have been withheld; and

(g) if so, what steps Government propose to take to see that the company is not closed and the 4000 work-